

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,

Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant

Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 10/003,916  
Filing Date: 11/02/2001  
First Named Inventor: Hiroyuki Ito  
Group Art Unit: 1751  
Examiner Name: K.M. Vijayakumar  
Attorney Docket Number: 0001460/3076USU  
CUSTOMER NO.: 27623

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**
  - a. **xxxx** Previously submitted
    - i. **xxxx** Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on October 8, 2004 (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment/Reply
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and PTO-1449
    - iv. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a. **xxxx** The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **01-0467**.
    - i. **xxxx** RCE fee (\$395.00) required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Extension of Time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii. **xxxx** Other Small Entity (The undersigned attorney has verified that the application is entitled to a Small Entity Status)
  - b. **xxxx** Check in the amount of \$395.00 enclosed
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

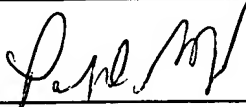
November 10, 2004

Date of Signature

11/15/2004 AWONDAF1 00000159 10003916

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395.00 OP

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on **November 10, 2004**.

Lesley-Jean Hill  
NAME

  
SIGNATURE

November 10, 2004  
DATE